

Abingdon Community Council Meeting
October 17, 2014

There were 2 members (C. David Copenhaver, Cynthia Hergenbahn) and 26 guests in attendance including: Dion Guthrie (Harford County Councilman), Andrew Tress (Aide to County Councilman Billy Boniface), Lt. John Dougherty (Harford County Sheriff's Office), Jeff Karberg (Administrator Identity Theft Unit of Maryland Attorney General's Office), Kathy Smith (Center for the Arts CEO), Tobias Musser (President of Center for the Arts)

This was the final meeting of the existing Abingdon Community Council.

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Cynthia Hergenbahn, Chairperson.
- Not in Attendance: County Councilman Joe Woods nor Jessica Blake (his aide), Mary Ann Lisanti nor Manley Calhoun III (her aide)
- Jeff Karberg: Administrator Identity Theft Unit of Maryland Attorney General's Office
 - Identity theft happens when someone steals your personal information and uses it without your permission.
 - Thieves get your information by stealing your wallet or purse, intercepting your mail, change of address forms, dumpster diving, files stolen from businesses, hacking electronic files, medical records, and tricking you through phishing, skimming, or pretexting.
 - Steps you can take to protect yourself include: not giving out your personal information by any request, buy a shredder and use it to shred unwanted mail and documents, putting a lock on your mailbox (if appropriate), always using passwords and pins with your electronic communications, buy and use a safe, don't carry sensitive information (Social Security card, bank account numbers and/or pins, insurance cards) unless you need it, make copies of your important documents and store them in your safe, don't give out your Social Security number, be wary of email scams, and remember public wifi can be hacked, best to use credit rather than debit, and check your credit report periodically.
 - Jeff distributed several handouts:
 - ✓ Taking Charge What to do if your identity is stolen – FTC.GOV/IDTHEFT
 - ✓ Identity Theft Recovery and Prevention Information – <http://www.oag.state.md.us/idtheft/index.htm>
 - ✓ Phone Scams – consumer.ftc.gov
 - ✓ Medical Identity Theft – business.ftc.gov
- Kathy Smith and Tobias Musser: Center for the Arts
 - Phase 1 has been scaled back to \$25M from \$60M
 - Looking for community input
- Lt. John Dougherty: Harford County Sheriff's Representative
 - Crime down in all areas
 - Be aware of Halloween Safety Tips
 - Watch out for Trick-or-Treaters, drive slowly and carefully
 - If you are a victim of identity theft, call police and make a report. To get a copy of the report will take a few days because it must first be logged into the computer.

- County Council Updates:
 - Dion Guthrie (County Councilman):
 - Council meetings are over for the year because of the election of Council members. New Council takes over on Dec. 1 and its first meeting will be Dec. 2.
 - Supports Center for the Arts
 - Identity theft – buy a case that blocks stealing of card information (sold at Walmart)
 - Constant Friendship housing will be subsidized but will not be Section 8.
- Andrew Tress (Aide to County Council President, Billy Boniface):
 - Storm drain issue on Rt. 40 has been resolved
- New Business/Announcements:
 - Donna and David Copenhaver thanked the audience for the opportunity to serve the Abingdon residents for almost 4 years (since its inception in March 2011). They also said if Community Councils are continued by the new County Executive that they will not be applying for a position on the Council, but will support it by attending meetings.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm by Cynthia Hergenbahn, Chairperson.

Minutes submitted by Donna Copenhaver